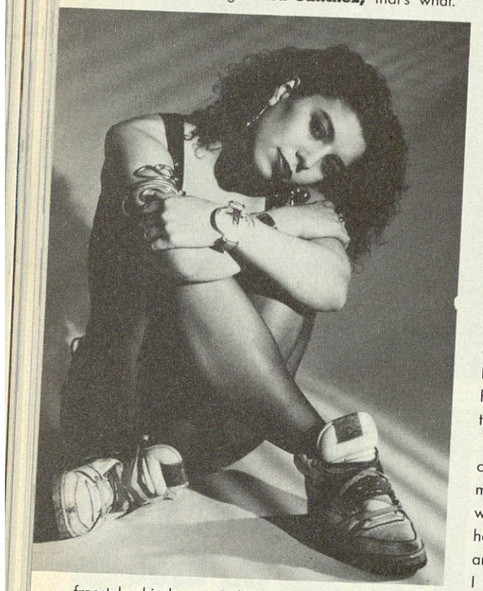
DANCE

TAKE ON ME

What, we wonder, can you possibly come up with if you take a house fanatic, a touch of Cuban parentage and an admirable pledge never to wear Timberlands, Kickers or Wallabies? South London-based singer **Lisa Sanchez,** that's what.



A raver's raver who's been checking all the best parties since that heady summer of '88, she nevertheless admits in an unguarded moment to have sung in all manner of acts "so dubious I don't think I should say any more!" That, needless to say, was before house took her fancy, and she made 'Take It Or Leave It', a cute house tune with a touch of Latin.

"I really used to criticise computer music, but because I worked in a club I heard a lot of house and got really into it. I love all of it — freestyle, hip-house, Italian. Well, maybe not all the Italian stuff! It's just the best thing that's happened in music for years." Colleagues at the record company where she does her day-job might not share her view — they get blasted by her pumping rave tapes all day long. If justice has it's way, she'll never collect another plastic beer glass again. **Phil Cheeseman**

'Take It Or Leave It' is out now on Debut

PANDELLA'S BOX

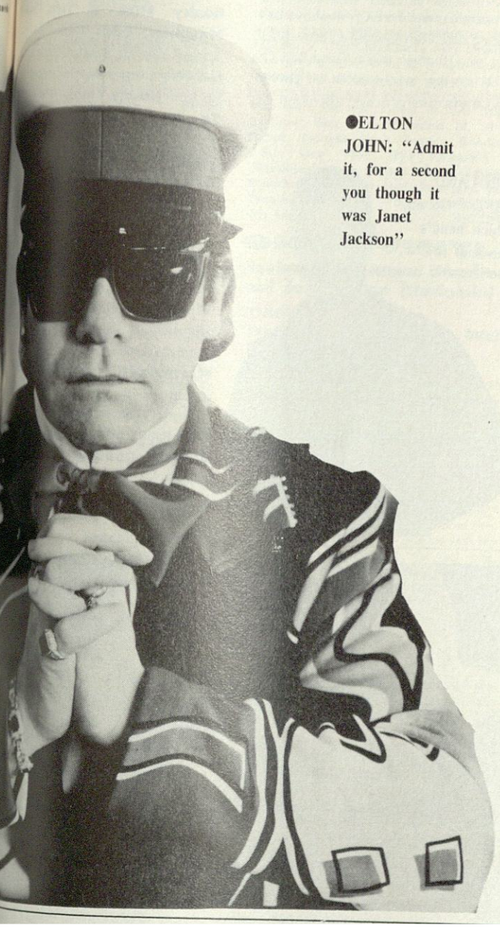
'Don't Stop (Your Love)' currently US New Jersey Sounds and released here on April 1 on AK Records

Little did Queen's chanteuse **Pandella** know what was in store for her when she flew in for a few dates to sing her new Komis-created single 'Don't Stop (Your Love)'. After completing her first performance in the sort of glittery outfit that Americans seem so fond of, her PR press officer decided it was time to Londonise her. Out came jeans, baseball caps and even Timberlands. "Those boots are really happening here," she was heard to comment after observing the scene outside London's Alphabet City. "They're not going to believe this when I get back to New York!"

Having apparently left Big Shot, the label he co-founded, to work in New Jersey, Komis is currently involved in production and remix work for a number of US labels, not the least of which is his own New Jersey Sounds. 'Don't Stop' has all the Komis trademarks and with its magical hookline looks set to take the reputation he earned with tracks like Dionne's 'Come Get Your Lovin', to even greater heights. Dance music needs sample-free tunes like this. **Phil Cheeseman**

CHARTFILE

BY ALAN JONES



●ELTON JOHN: "Admit it, for a second you though it was Janet Jackson"

●**Five Star** returned to the chart last week with their 20th hit, 'Treat Me Like A Lady'. All 20 have been released on their own Tent record label. Only two other artists have had more hits on labels they own: **Elton John**, proprietor of Rocket, has scored 32 hits thereon, while **UB40** have clocked up 24 hits on their DEP International label, which they run from a converted abbatoir in Birmingham.

Five Star are also the first British black group and the only group comprising solely of brothers and sisters to register as many as 20 chart successes.

●Over 30 acts from Italy have now scored British hits, but Black Box are the first to have two Top Five hits, with 'I Don't Know Anybody Else', the follow-up to their chart-topping 'Ride On Time', peaking at number four. Five weeks into its chart life it has sold over 170,000 copies, to bring the group's total UK sales to over a million.

●**Bonnie Raitt**'s surprise triumph in the Grammys have breathed new life into her year-old album, and sparked her first hit single in over a decade.

40-year-old Bonnie won four Grammys, taking the prizes for Best Album, Best Pop Vocal, and Best Rock Vocal with her Capitol album 'Nick Of Time', which has responded to its accolades by selling over 300,000 copies in a fortnight to bring its cumulative sales to over a million. This week it climbs to number12, to become Bonnie's first ever Top 20 album. Meanwhile, Bonnie's single 'Have A Heart', which debuted last week at number 92, climbs to number 78. Bonnie has only had two previous hit singles in nearly 20 years of making records — 'Runaway', which peaked at number 57 in 1977 and 'You're Gonna Get What's Coming', a number 73 hit three years later. In Britain, the release of 'Nick Of Time' went almost un-noticed, and it has sold fewer than 10,000 copies.

●Her current fine single 'With A Little Love' is Sam Brown's third hit. Her father Joe Brown scored 12 hits, mainly in the Sixties, but her mum Vicki Brown, though a highly successful and talented session singer, who can be heard on number one hits by Joe Cocker ('With A Little Help From My Friends') and J J Barrie ('No Charge') has never had a hit in her own right. This could change, with her new single 'Just For You' (based on a theme by Brahms) which is just outside the chart. If Sam and Vicki do manage to appear in the chart at the same time, they will become the first mother and daughter ever to have simultaneous hits. You may recall from previous Chartfiles that the only mother/daughter pairs to have hits even at different times are Judy Garland/Liza Minnelli and Miquel Brown/Sinitta. Liza, of course, is currently enjoying the fourth hit single off her album 'Results' with 'Love Pains', which climbed to number 41 last week, thus bettering the number 48 peak attained by Hazell Dean's version of the same pop song just six months ago.

●BPI statistics confirm it: 1989 was the best year ever for record sales in Britain. Singles edged up from 60.1 million to 61.2 million, while 162.2 million albums were sold in 1989, 2.3 million more than in the previous year. Album sales breakdown: vinyl 37.9 million (23 per cent), Cassettes 83.0 million (51 per cent) and compact discs 41.7 million (26 per cent). 1988 percentages were: Vinyl — 32 per cent, cassettes — 50 per cent and compact discs — 18 per cent.

●Meanwhile, the Brits awards they so ungraciously returned have helped the Fine Young Cannibals' 'The Raw And The Cooked' album to climb as high as number nine on the chart, more than a year after it debuted at number one. With over 900,000 copies already sold in the UK, it's a cert to top a million sales in due

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